



# **Interpupillary and Vertex Distance Effects on Field-of-View and Acuity with ANVIS**

**By**

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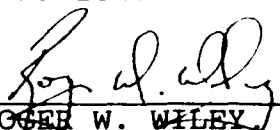
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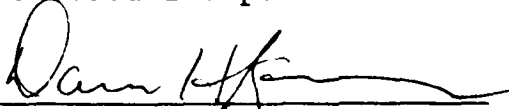
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## Introduction

In addition to focus, several fitting adjustments must be accomplished by the individual aviator to optimize performance of Aviation Night Vision Imaging System (ANVIS, AN/AVS-6) night vision goggles. These adjustments include vertical alignment, tilt, interpupillary distance (IPD), and vertex distance (Loro, 1991; TC1-204, 1988; U.S. Army Aviation Center, 1991). The ANVIS field-of-view is usually reported to be 40 degrees, and Walsh (1989) found that the mean field-of-view for 5 sets of ANVIS was 39.8 degrees, but adjustment changes can limit an aviator's ability to obtain a full and complete 40 degree field-of-view (Loro, 1991; Verona and Rash, 1989). A restricted field-of-view reduces performance on a variety of complex tasks (Wells and Venturino, 1989). In addition, there has recently been considerable interest in the possible operational impacts of ANVIS adjustments. The specific impetus for this investigation is a tasking memorandum from Headquarters, Medical Research and Development Command relating to the potential contributions of IPD adjustments to a Class A OH-58D mishap (Parry, 1992).

Walsh (1990) reported that the ANVIS field-of-view declines from 40 degrees at 20 mm vertex distance to 27 degrees at 40 mm vertex distance. Kotulak and Frezell (1991) also demonstrated that increases in vertex distance produce systematic decreases in goggle field-of-view. Kotulak (in preparation) has found that changes in the vertex distance setting of ANVIS can have substantial effects on the available field-of-view. He reported that the as worn vertex distances ranged from 15 mm for the fifth percentile aviator to 32 mm for the 95th percentile aviator. Fields-of-view ranged from 40 degrees at vertex distances of 18 mm or less down to 32 degrees at the 32 mm vertex distance. Vertex distances greater than 18 mm restrict the field-of-view in direct proportion to the increase in vertex distance. The majority of the extended vertex distances noted by Kotulak were attributed to the lack of vertex distance adjustment range in the ANVIS, rather than to deliberate or accidental misadjustment.

Four measures of field-of-view are relevant to the present discussion. They are the single tube field-of-view, the binocular field-of-view, the monocular lobe size, and the total field-of-view. The average single tube field-of-view is the mean of the angular sizes of the two single tube fields-of-view. The binocular field-of-view is the angular area which is visible through both tubes simultaneously. The monocular lobe size is the combined angular extent of the two monocular lobes, which are areas visible through only one tube. The total field-of-view extends from the left to the right edge of the area visible through either tube, and represents the total angular area visible through one or both tubes. It consists of the binocular field-of-view plus the monocular lobe size.



Several theoretical analyses of the effects of changes in vertex distance and IPD on ANVIS fields-of-view have been conducted within the Visual Science Branch. Kotulak (1992) concluded that increased vertex distance would reduce the single tube field-of-view, and that decentration would produce vignetting on one side of the field-of-view, reducing its size. Specifically, nasal decentration would produce temporal vignetting in both single tube fields, while temporal decentration would produce nasal vignetting in both single tube fields. McLean (1992) concluded that decentration would increase the total field-of-view at 32 mm vertex distance, but not at 18 mm vertex distance, where it would remain 40 degrees regardless of the extent of decentration. This argument is presented graphically in Figures 1 and 2. McLean also predicted that, at 18 mm vertex distance, setting the ANVIS IPD to other than the optimal distance for a subject will result in reductions of the binocular field-of-view. The single tube fields-of-view will be vignetted on one edge, but when both fields are combined, the total field-of-view will be unchanged. This is shown in Figure 3. However, at a vertex distance of 32 mm, McLean expected ANVIS to deliver a reduced total field-of-view, which would be restored by decentration. This is shown in Figure 4. Thus, setting the IPD of ANVIS to other than the separation matching the observer's IPD should have the effect of transforming ANVIS into a partially overlapped system. The contribution of IPD setting changes to the size of the areas, the binocular field-of-view and the monocular lobe, making up the total field-of-view were expected to vary as a function of vertex distance.

Previous research at USAARL has also indicated that there is a small loss in resolution (0.07 logMAR) at the periphery of ANVIS fields-of-view when compared to the resolution at the center of the field-of-view (Walsh, unpublished, cited in Karney, 1988). The term logMAR refers to the log of the minimum angle of resolution. However, as this finding was never formally documented in a report, controlled measurements of acuity were included in the present experiment.

There is a small, but consistent advantage in resolution and contrast sensitivity to be derived from binocular as opposed to monocular viewing (Arditi, 1986; Boff and Lincoln, 1988). As an ANVIS with its IPD set to other than the optimal value is also a partially monocular device, changes in visual performance in the monocular portions of the field-of-view might be expected. However, Wiley (1989) found little impact of monocular viewing on acuity with AN/PVS-5A night vision devices. Previous investigators have noted strong effects of target contrast on acuity with the AN/PVS-5A (Wiley, 1989) and with ANVIS (Kotulak and Rash, 1992). Thus, lower acuity was also anticipated for low contrast targets compared to high contrast targets.

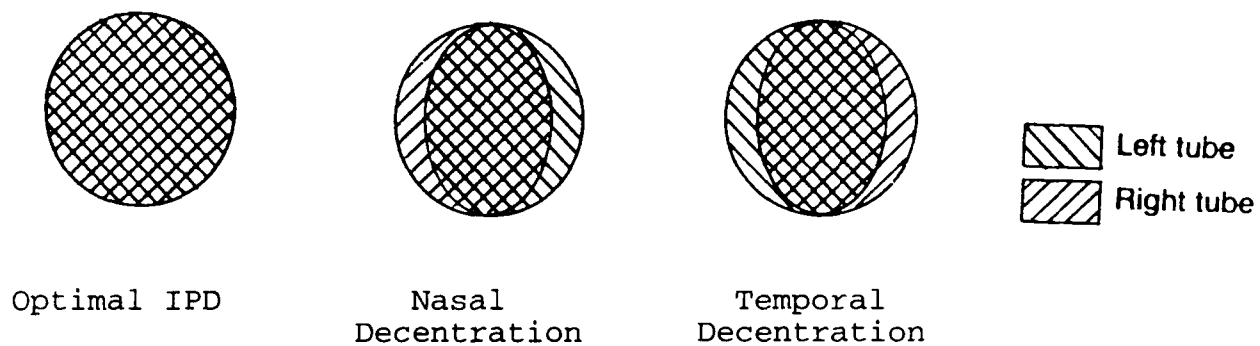


Figure 1. Predicted components of the field-of-view at 18 mm vertex distance.

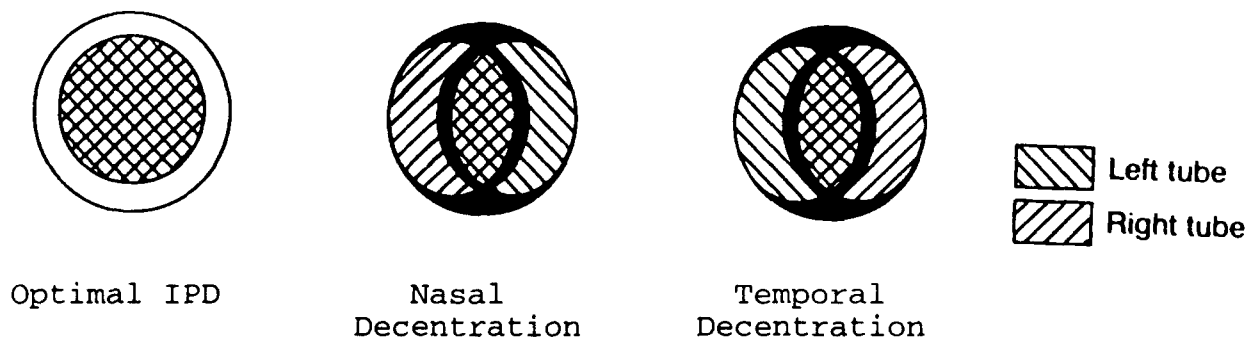
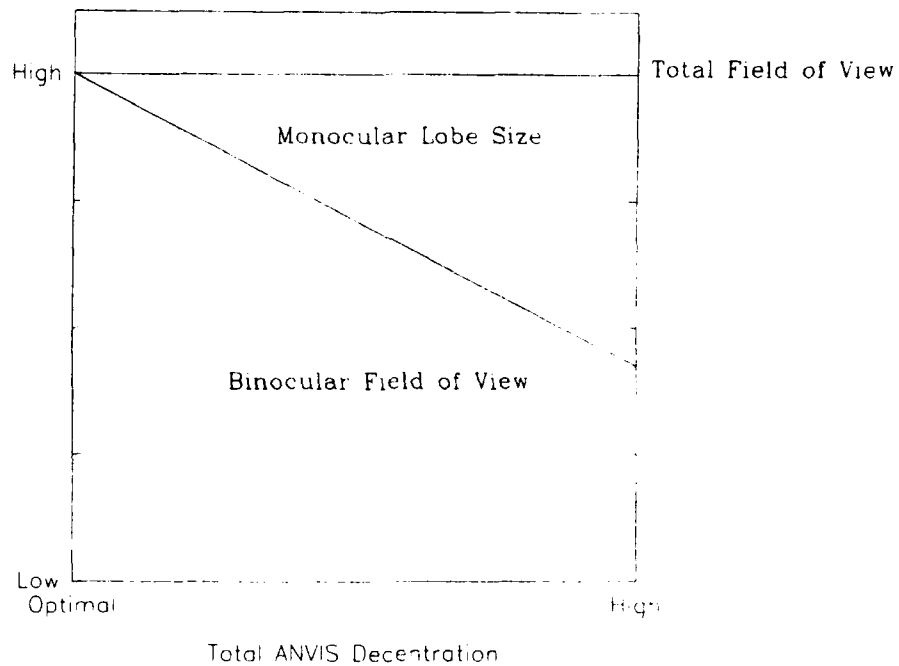
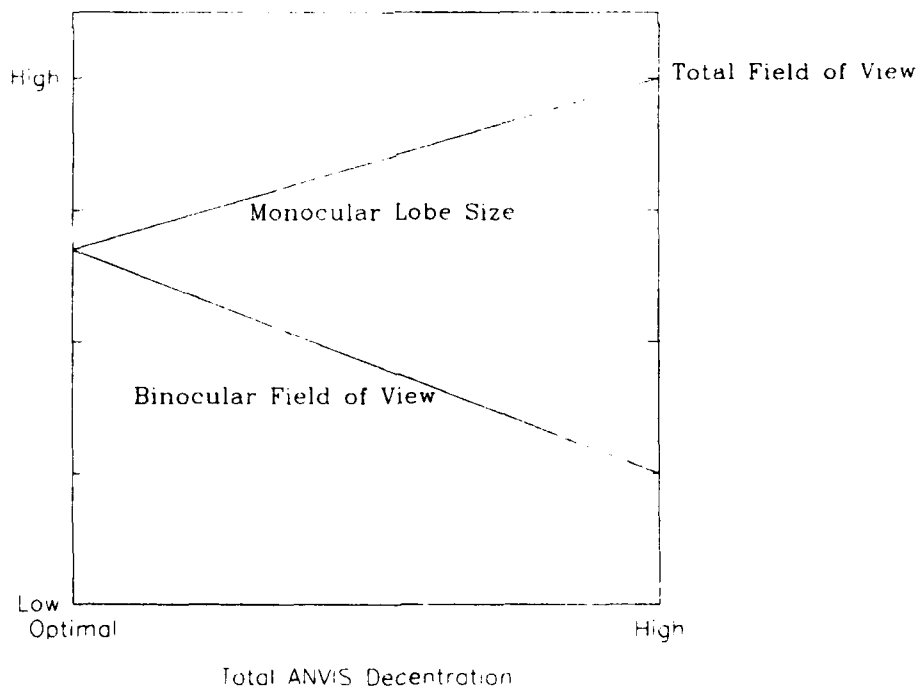


Figure 2. Predicted components of the field-of-view at 32 mm vertex distance.



**Figure 3. Relative contributions to the field-of-view at 18 mm vertex distance.**



**Figure 4. Relative contributions to the field-of-view at 32 mm vertex distance.**

Biberman and Alluisi (1992) have suggested that the performance of night vision devices is severely compromised by missetting the IPD. Hickok (1992) has reported that missetting ANVIS IPD by 10 mm can produce Snellen acuities of 20/200, or a logMAR score of 1.0. An extensive examination of the available data on this issue has led us to the belief that Hickok's data were probably based on unpublished studies of the AN/PVS-5A night vision goggle system conducted at USAARL in the early 1980's (McLean, 1992). However, there is clearly a need for a well documented investigation of the relationship between IPD setting and acuity in ANVIS.

The objectives of this research are to (1) verify the theoretical predictions described above with regard to the size of the components of the field-of-view as a function of changes in vertex distance and IPD in ANVIS, (2) document the impacts of changes in location in the field-of-view, vertex distance, and IPD on acuity in ANVIS, and (3) replicate earlier research on the impact of contrast on acuity with ANVIS.

### Methods

#### Subjects

Ten volunteer subjects participated in the field-of-view determinations. This group consisted of six males and four females, with an average age of  $30 \pm 10$  years. Eight volunteer subjects participated in the acuity determinations, four males and four females with an average age of  $28 \pm 8$  years. All subjects were able to achieve an 18 mm vertex distance and 20/45 acuity (logMAR = .35) on the high contrast Bailey-Lovie acuity chart, which is described below, through the ANVIS at the center of its field-of-view before the field-of-view session. Two subjects were unable to satisfy the acuity standard before the start of the acuity testing due to astigmatism, and were excluded from that portion of the experiment.

#### ANVIS

All measures were collected through a single flight certified set of ANVIS, which was used throughout the experiment. These ANVIS were attached to a customized mount and placed on an optical rail. A chin and forehead rest was also attached to the rail. This apparatus is shown in front and back quartering views in Figures 5 and 6. A black drape, not shown in the figure, was placed around the ANVIS tubes and over the mount to block stray light. The ANVIS, mounted to this rail, was positioned 10 feet from, and normal to, a black wall. Objective lens focusing and the tilt, vertical, IPD, and vertex distance adjustments were accomplished by the experimenters as outlined in Loro (1991). The subjects' IPDs were determined clinically using an IPD ruler.

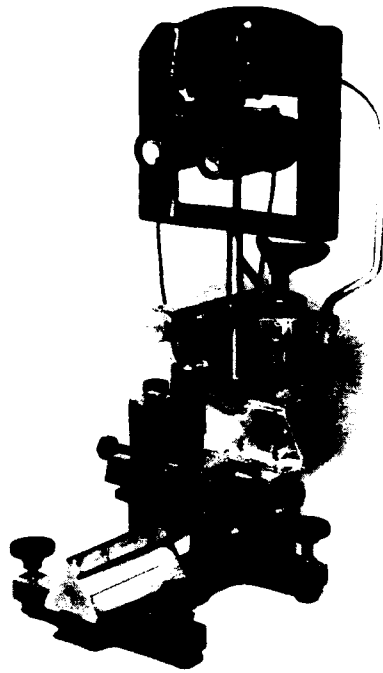


Figure 5. Front view of the apparatus.

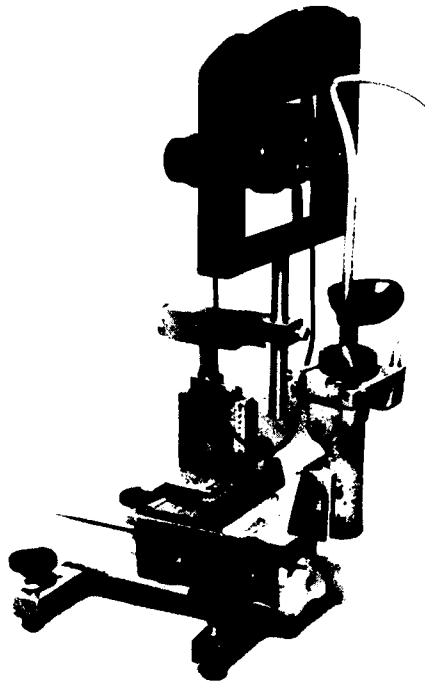


Figure 6. Rear view of the apparatus.

The 18 mm vertex distance position for the ANVIS was established using a House of Vision model 11 103 00 distometer (see Appendix A); the 32 mm vertex distance position was determined using the millimeter scale on the optical rail employed to position and stabilize the ANVIS and the chin/head rest. The subjects focused the diopter ring as outlined in Loro (1991) under the supervision of the experimenters. Eye movements were permitted. The ANVIS were used with Gentex polished-surface filters (see Appendix A) placed over the objective lenses. These filters attenuate incident radiant flux approximately 5 log units across the wavelengths to which ANVIS is sensitive (Rash and Martin, 1989). IPD settings were accomplished using an IPD mm ruler. IPD decentrations were analyzed as absolute deviations from the optimal IPD setting for that subject.

#### Field-of-view

An American Optical Project-O-Chart projector model 11082 with a Praboline slide model 11179 (see Appendix A) was used to project a circular spot of light 0.27 degrees in size onto a mat black wall. Under conditions of optimal IPD, horizontal limits to the fields-of-view were assessed by determining the point at which subjects reported that half of the spot remained visible. Kotulak (in preparation) employed a similar procedure to measure fields-of-view. Under both of the decentration conditions, the subjects were instructed that one edge of each field would appear clear, while the other would appear to be fuzzy. The "half the spot visible" criterion was to be used on the clear side, while on the fuzzy side, they were instructed to place the spot at the most extreme position at which they could detect it. Fields-of-view were determined for each tube of the ANVIS independently. The objective lens of the tube not in use was covered with an opaque cap. Two adjustments were applied to these field-of-view data in order to correct them to infinity. The first adjustment was to remove the IPD from the total and binocular field-of-view assessments, as the single tube fields which contribute to these measures are offset from each other by the amount of the IPD. The second involved adjusting the sizes of the monocular fields-of-view for the change in effective power of the objective lens due to the 10 foot working distance. This correction added 0.36 degrees to each field-of-view. Lighting was provided by the fluorescent room lighting at controlled reduced brightness. A two-way all within subjects (2 levels of vertex distance, 18 mm and 32 mm; 3 levels of IPD, 51 mm, optimal, and 72 mm) design was applied to the field-of-view measures. Greenhouse and Geisser (1958; 1959) corrections were calculated for these analyses. As no outcomes were altered, unadjusted F tests are reported. Regression analyses using the absolute amount of decentration to predict the sizes of the components of the field-of-view were also employed. Significance ( $p$  less than or equal to .05) is indicated by an asterix (\*) on the relevant figures. There were 28 degrees of freedom in these analyses. Absolute decentration

was chosen as an independent measure because theoretical analyses (Kotulak, 1992; McLean, 1992) indicated, and preliminary data analyses confirmed, that direction of decentration of IPD was irrelevant to the field-of-view measures.

### Acuity

Acuity measures were taken using Bailey-Lovie high (90%) contrast and low (8%) contrast visual acuity charts 4, 5, 6, and 7 (University of California, Berkeley, 1988; see Appendix A). These charts provide letters of equal legibility, with the same number of letters on each row, controlled letter and row spacing, and a logarithmic progression of letter size (Bailey and Lovie, 1976). The acuity data were collected and analyzed as logMAR scores. The scores were corrected for the difference in distance to the acuity targets between the center and the periphery of the field-of-view. Center field acuities were obtained with the acuity chart centered in the binocular portion of the field-of-view. Left and right limit acuities were measured with the acuity chart against the left or right limit of the overall visual field. For these conditions, the charts were placed so that, for the high contrast condition, the outermost character on the 0.5 logMAR line was placed as close to the edge as possible while still remaining readable. For the low contrast condition, this criterion was applied to the 0.8 logMAR line. Under conditions of decentration, these latter measures were expected to reflect monocular acuities, as well. Lighting was provided by (1) the fluorescent room lighting at controlled reduced brightness, and (2) two auxiliary dual tube 40 watt 48 inch fluorescent light fixtures. These two auxiliary lights were placed horizontally on stands 75 cm above the floor, 210 cm from and 40 cm below the acuity targets, and were separated from each other by 50 cm. They were set parallel to the wall. The reflectors on the auxiliary lamps shielded the ANVIS from their direct light. This arrangement provided luminances of 64.0, 71.9, and 59.6 candelas per meter squared on the Bailey-Lovie charts at the left, center, and right extremes of the fields-of-view employed in this experiment. These measurements were made with a Minolta nt-1 luminance meter (see Appendix A). This lighting arrangement was chosen because, during pilot experimentation, it yielded acuities in the range of those reported by Kotulak and Rash (1992) for quarter moon conditions using the Bailey-Lovie high and low contrast charts. A four-way all within subjects (2 levels of vertex distance, 18 mm and 32 mm; 3 levels of IPD, 51 mm, optimal, and 72 mm; 2 levels of location in the field-of-view, center and periphery; and 2 levels of contrast, high and low) design was applied to the acuity portion of this project. Greenhouse and Geisser (1958; 1959) corrections were calculated for this analysis. As no outcomes were altered, unadjusted F tests are reported. Regression analyses using relative decentration of IPD to predict acuity were also employed. Significance (p less than or equal to .05)

is indicated by an asterix (\*) on the relevant figures. There were 22 degrees of freedom in these analyses.

### Experimental sequence

The experimenters provided the subjects an initial briefing, during which the subjects were asked to give informed consent to participate in the experiment, and during which they were familiarized with the experimental procedure and the apparatus to be employed. The experimenters then measured the subject's IPD in order to determine the subject's optimal IPD. The experiment was divided into two sessions separated by a break. The first session was devoted to field-of-view measures, while the second consisted entirely of acuity measures. Each session required roughly 45 minutes to complete. The field-of-view session began with the subject focusing the ANVIS diopter ring. The experimenters then set the vertex distance to 18 mm and the optimal IPD. Monocular fields-of-view limits were determined for the left and right tubes independently. The IPD was reset to 72 mm for the second set of measures, and to 51 mm for the final set. The vertex distance was then adjusted to 32 mm, and the entire sequence was repeated. All subjects received this same sequence of conditions for the field-of-view determinations. The second, or acuity session, again began with the subject focusing the ANVIS diopter ring. The experimenters then set vertex distance to either 18 or 32 mm, and the IPD to either optimum, 72 mm, or 51 mm. In this session, 4 subjects experienced the 18 mm vertex conditions first, while 4 experienced the 32 mm vertex condition first. IPDs were presented in the same randomly determined order at both vertex distances for a particular subject. Overall, optimal IPD was presented first twice, second once, and third five times. The 72 mm IPD was presented first four times and second four times. The 51 mm IPD was presented first twice, second three times, and third three times. At each of these settings, acuity was measured in the center of the visual field, first under high and then under low contrast conditions, then at the left limit of the total field-of-view under high and low contrast conditions, and finally at the right limit of the total field-of-view under high and low contrast. Two variations of the Bailey-Lovie chart were used in this session. One was used for a set of high and low contrast measures, and the other was used for the next set of measures. The single alternation procedure was employed throughout the session. The experimenters then conducted an exit briefing, and dismissed the subject.

### Results

The average single tube field-of-view is the mean of the angular sizes of the left and right single tube fields-of-view. For the average single tube field-of-view size, there was a significant effect due to vertex distance ( $F(1,9) = 152.79$ ,  $p =$



.000001), IPD ( $F(2,18) = 10.69$ ,  $p = .0009$ ), and a significant vertex distance by IPD interaction ( $F(2,18) = 5.50$ ,  $p = .014$ ). The single tube field-of-view was reduced at 32 mm vertex distance and at other than optimal IPD. The interaction indicates that the differences in field-of-view between the 18 mm and 32 mm vertex distances are reduced at the 51 mm and 72 mm IPD settings compared to the optimal setting. These data are presented in graphical form in Figure 7. Regression analyses applied to these data are presented in Figure 8 for the 18 mm vertex distance condition and in Figure 9 for the 32 mm vertex distance condition. In both cases, the equations are significant, and accounted for substantial portions of the variance.

The binocular field-of-view is that angular area visible through both tubes simultaneously. For the binocular field-of-view measure, there was a significant effect due to vertex distance ( $F(1,9) = 135.81$ ,  $p = .000001$ ) and to IPD ( $F(2,18) = 13.07$ ,  $p = .0003$ ). The vertex distance by IPD interaction ( $F(2,18) = 0.69$ ,  $p = .52$ ) was not significant. The binocular field-of-view was greater at 18 mm vertex distance than at 32 mm vertex distance, and was greater at the optimal IPD setting than at the 51 mm or 72 mm settings for both vertex distances. These data are presented in graphical form in Figure 10. Regression analyses applied to these data are presented in Figure 11 for the 18 mm vertex distance condition and in Figure 12 for the 32 mm vertex distance condition. In both cases, the equations were significant, and accounted for substantial portions of the variance.

The monocular lobe size is the sum of the two lobes which represent the area visible to only one eye. For the monocular lobe size measure, there was a significant effect due to vertex distance ( $F(1,9) = 102.81$ ,  $p = .000003$ ), IPD ( $F(2,18) = 15.62$ ,  $p = .0001$ ), and a significant vertex distance by IPD interaction ( $F(2,18) = 9.22$ ,  $p = .002$ ). Monocular lobe size was smallest at optimal IPD settings and at 18 mm vertex distance. The interaction indicates that monocular lobe size increased more rapidly with increasing decentration at 32 mm vertex distance than at 18 mm vertex distance. These data are presented graphically in Figure 13. Regression analyses applied to these data are presented in Figure 14 for the 18 mm vertex distance and in Figure 15 for the 32 mm vertex distance. In both cases, the equations are significant, and accounted for substantial portions of the variance.

The total field-of-view extends from the left to the right edge of the area visible through either tube, and represents the total angular area visible through one or both tubes. It consists of the binocular field-of-view plus the monocular lobes. For the total field-of-view, there was a significant effect due to vertex distance ( $F(1,9) = 52.92$ ,  $p = .00005$ ), IPD ( $F(2,18) =$

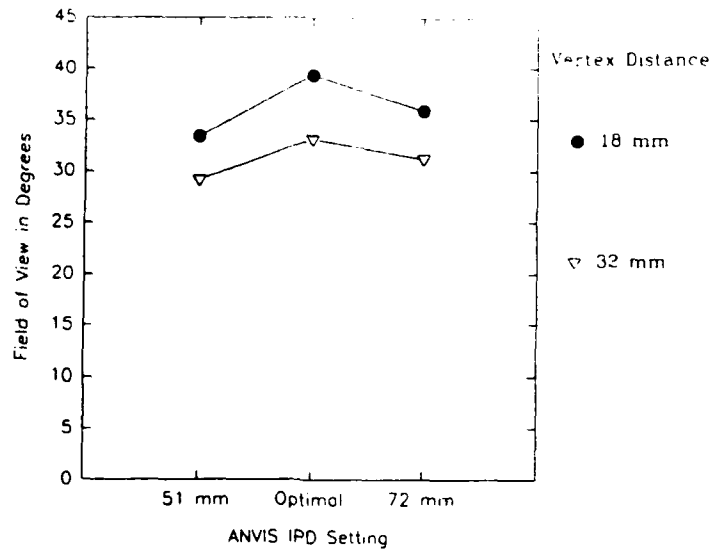


Figure 7. Average single tube field-of-view.

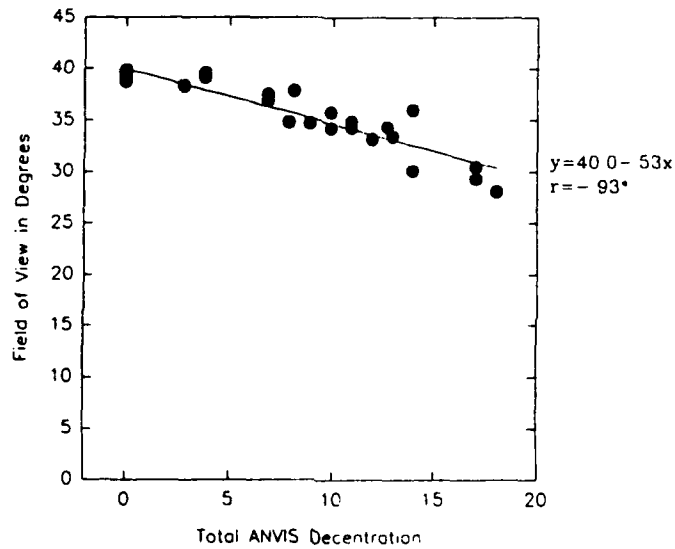


Figure 8. 18 mm vertex distance, average single tube field-of-view.

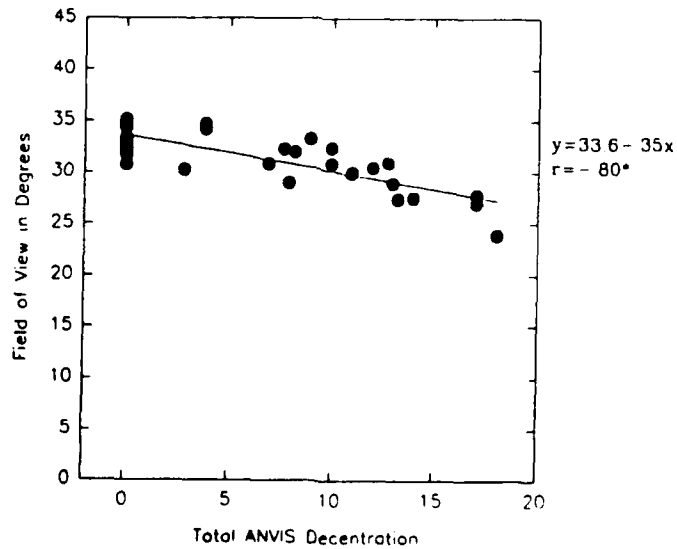


Figure 9. 32 mm vertex distance, average single tube field-of-view.

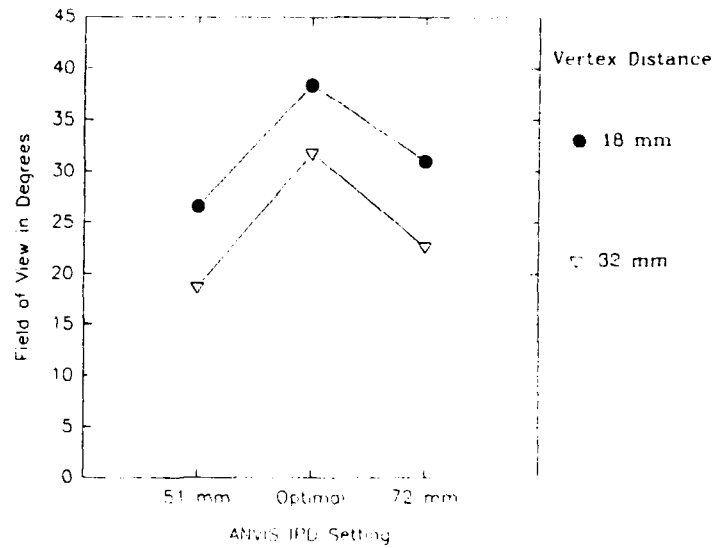


Figure 10. Binocular field-of-view.

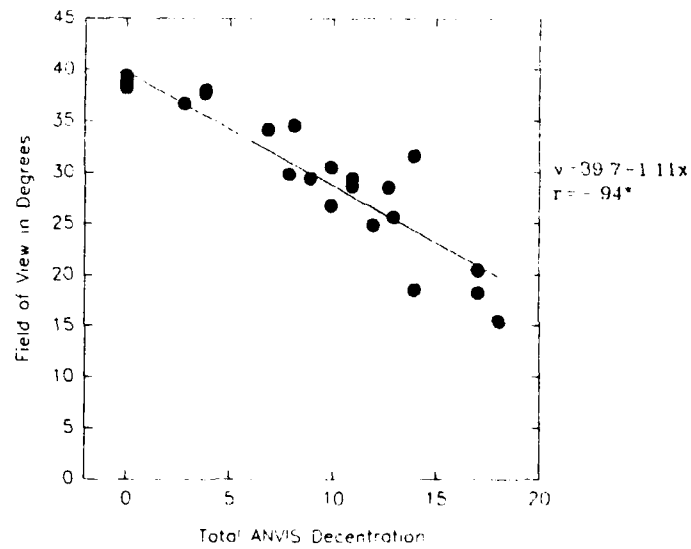


Figure 11. 18 mm vertex distance, binocular field-of-view.

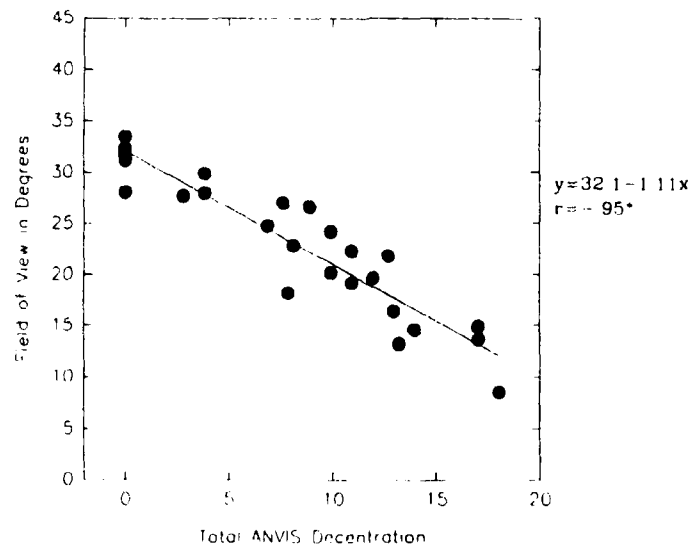


Figure 12. 32 mm vertex distance, binocular field-of-view.

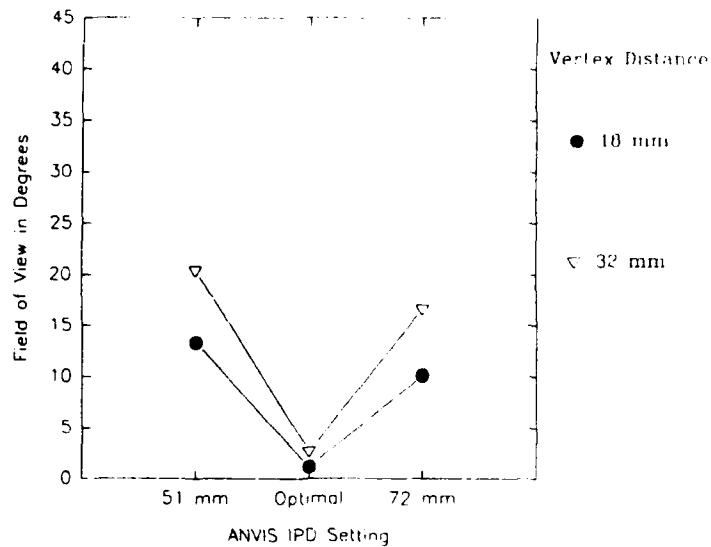


Figure 13. Monocular lobe size.

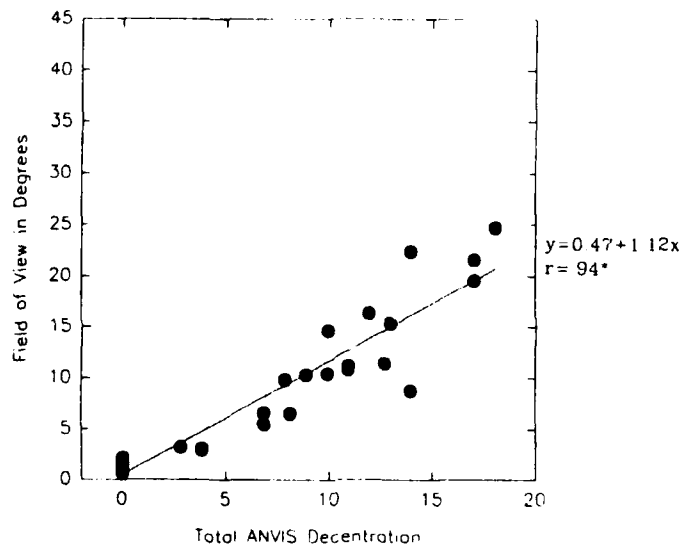


Figure 14. 18 mm vertex distance, monocular lobe size.

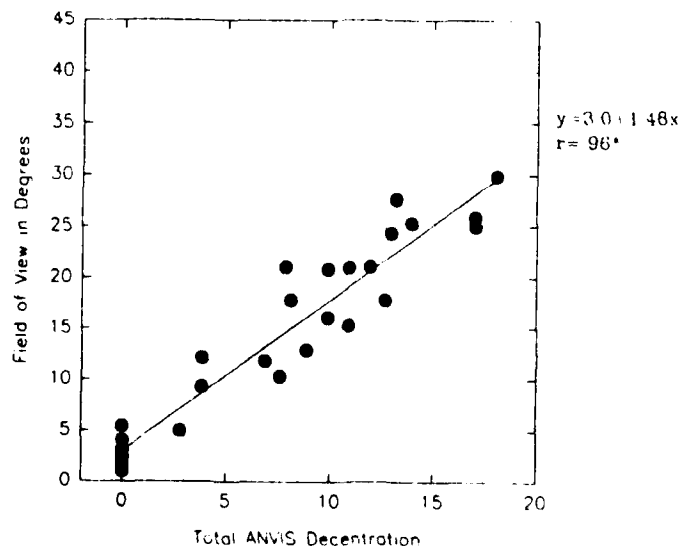


Figure 15. 32 mm vertex distance, monocular lobe size.

24.25,  $p = .000008$ ), and a significant vertex distance by IPD interaction ( $F(2,18) = 22.10$ ,  $p = .00001$ ). Total field-of-view was generally greater at 18 mm vertex distance than at 32 mm vertex distance, while the IPD effect and the IPD by vertex distance interaction reflect the convergence of 18 mm and 32 mm vertex distance total fields-of-view under conditions of decentration. These data are presented in graphical form in Figure 16. At 18 mm vertex distance, the total field-of-view was insensitive to decentration, but at 32 mm vertex distance, the total field-of-view increased with increasing decentration. While decentration appears to restore total field-of-view at 32 mm vertex distance, it should be noted that this applies only to the horizontal field-of-view. The field-of-view in the vertical meridian remains reduced in the face of increasing decentration. Regression analyses applied to these data are presented in Figure 17 for the 18 mm vertex distance condition and in Figure 18 for the 32 mm vertex distance condition. In the 32 mm vertex distance situation, the equation was significant, and accounted for a substantial portion of the variance.

The acuity data from the present experiment will be reported in logMARs. Table 1 contains conversions from logMARs to Snellen denominators. Analysis of the acuity data revealed that vertex distance had no effect on acuity ( $F(1,7) = 2.70$ ,  $p = .15$ ). IPD did influence acuity ( $F(2,14) = 4.57$ ,  $p = .03$ ), suggesting that acuity is slightly better at optimal IPD than it is under conditions of decentration. This effect indicates decreasing acuity with increasing decentration. Location in the visual field strongly influenced acuity ( $F(1,7) = 181.18$ ,  $p = .000003$ ), indicating that acuity was lower in the periphery than in the center of the visual field. Contrast also had a highly significant influence on acuity ( $F(1,7) = 1323.87$ ,  $p = .000000$ ), indicating greater acuity with high contrast than with low contrast stimuli. Location in the visual field interacted significantly with contrast ( $F(2,14) = 36.53$ ,  $p = .0005$ ), reflecting the reduced impact of low contrast in the periphery of the visual field compared to its center. The interactions of vertex distance and IPD ( $F(2,14) = 0.09$ ,  $p = .91$ ), vertex distance and location in the visual field ( $F(1,7) = 2.56$ ,  $p = .15$ ), IPD and location in the visual field ( $F(2,14) = 0.63$ ,  $p = .55$ ), vertex distance and contrast ( $F(1,7) = 0.005$ ,  $p = .95$ ), IPD and contrast ( $F(2,14) = 1.37$ ,  $p = .29$ ), vertex distance and IPD and location in the visual field ( $F(2,14) = 3.11$ ,  $p = .08$ ), vertex distance and IPD and contrast ( $F(2,14) = 0.16$ ,  $p = .86$ ), vertex distance and location in the visual field and contrast ( $F(1,7) = 5.32$ ,  $p = .055$ ), IPD and location in the visual field and contrast ( $F(2,14) = 0.71$ ,  $p = .51$ ), and the four-way interaction of vertex distance and IPD and location in the visual field and contrast ( $F(2,14) = 0.17$ ,  $p = .85$ ) did not achieve significance. These data are presented in Figure 19 for 18 mm vertex distance and in Figure 20 for 32 mm vertex distance.

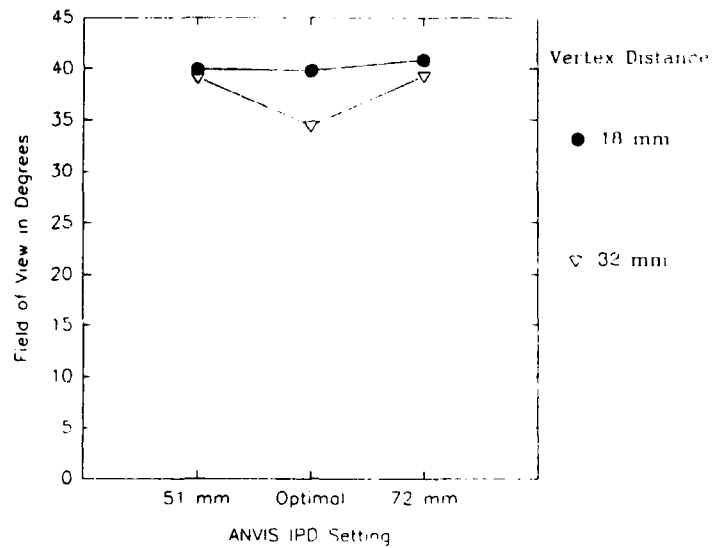


Figure 16. Total field-of-view.

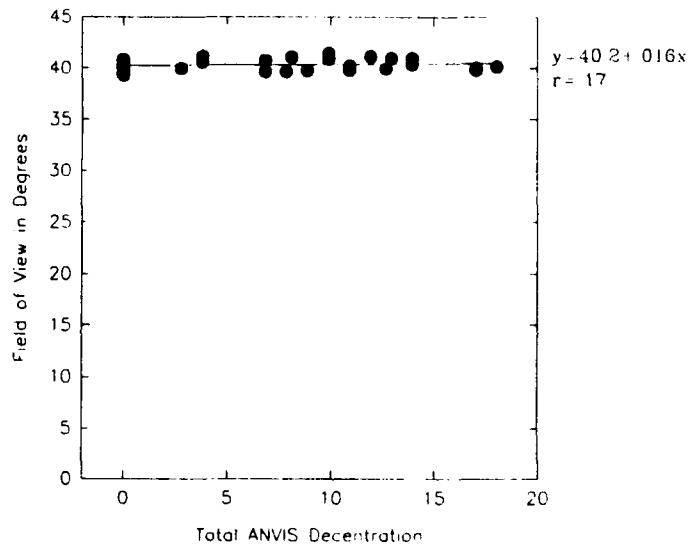


Figure 17. 18 mm vertex distance, total field-of-view.

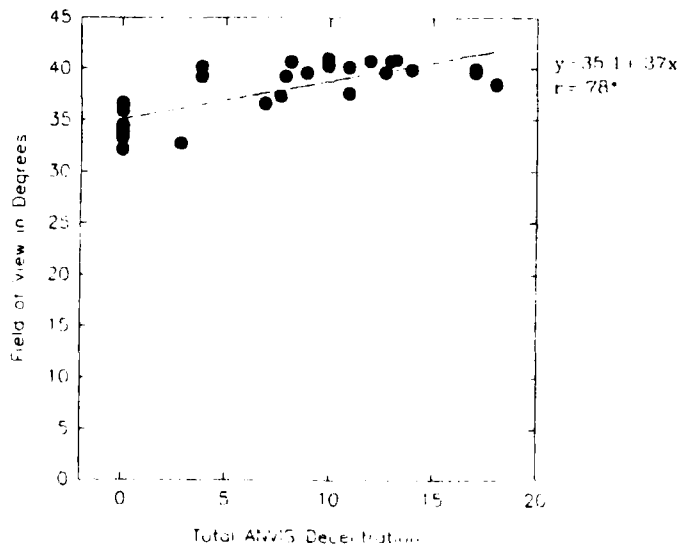


Figure 18. 32 mm vertex distance, total field-of-view.

Table 1.

Conversion from logMAR to Snellen Denominators (20/ - )

logMAR	Snellen Denominator
0	20.00
0.02	20.94
0.04	21.93
0.06	22.96
0.08	24.05
0.1	25.18
0.12	26.37
0.14	27.61
0.16	28.91
0.18	30.27
0.2	31.70
0.22	33.19
0.24	34.76
0.26	36.39
0.28	38.11
0.3	39.91
0.32	41.79
0.34	43.76
0.36	45.82
0.38	47.98
0.4	50.24
0.42	52.61
0.44	55.08
0.46	57.68
0.48	60.40
0.5	63.25
0.52	66.23
0.54	69.35
0.56	72.62
0.58	76.04
0.6	79.62
0.62	83.37
0.64	87.30
0.66	91.42
0.68	95.73
0.7	100.24
0.72	104.96
0.74	109.91
0.76	115.09
0.78	120.51
0.8	126.19
0.82	132.14
0.84	138.37
0.86	144.89
0.88	151.72
0.9	158.87
0.92	166.35
0.94	174.19
0.96	182.40
0.98	191.00
1	200.00

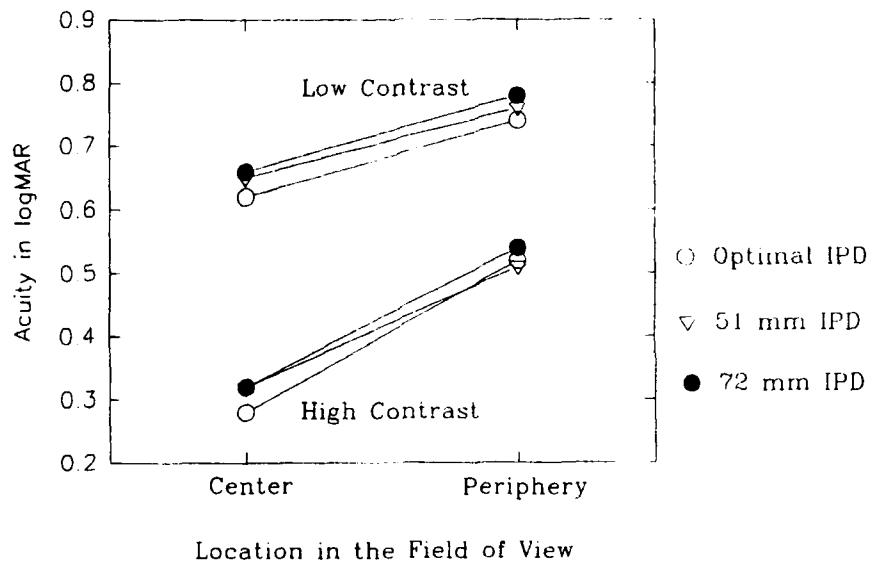


Figure 19. Acuity at 18 mm vertex distance.

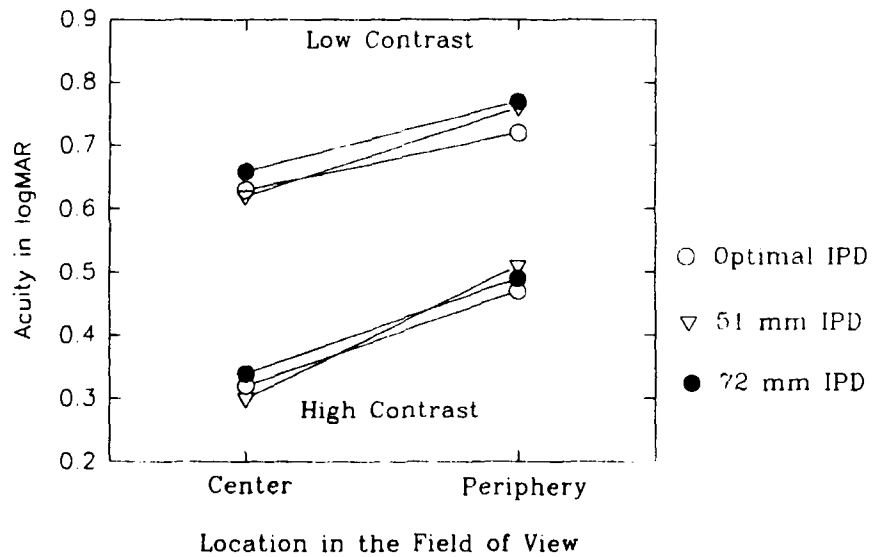


Figure 20. Acuity at 32 mm vertex distance.



Figures 21 through 24 present regression analyses employing decentration as the independent variable and acuity as the dependent variable under conditions of vertex distance, location in the field-of-view, and contrast employed in this experiment. Decentration was not a significant predictor of acuity in these regressions. The functions predict acuity changes of 1 letter or less on the Bailey-Lovie test charts for a decentration of 21 mm, the largest decentration possible with ANVIS.

### Discussion

#### Field-of-view

The single tube field-of-view results, which demonstrated a reduction in the size of the single tube field-of-view at 32 mm vertex distance compared to the 18 mm vertex distance, are consistent with the results obtained by other investigators (Kotulak, in preparation; Kotulak and Frezell, 1991; Walsh, unpublished, cited in Karney, 1988; Walsh, 1989; Walsh, 1990). These results are summarized and compared in Table 2. The low standard deviations speak well of our measurement technique.

Table 2.

Single tube fields-of-view in degrees as a function of vertex distance

Source	18 mm Vertex distance	32 mm Vertex distance
Walsh, 1989	39.8 $\pm$ .5	
Walsh, 1990, Figure 7	39.6	32.5
Walsh, unpublished, cited in Karney, 1988	39.5	
Kotulak, in preparation, Figure 8	39.8	33.4
This report	39.4 $\pm$ .3	33.1 $\pm$ 1.3

The decreases in single tube and binocular fields-of-view, and the increase in monocular lobe size seen at both 18 mm vertex distance and at 32 mm vertex distance with increasing decentration, as well as the increase in the size of the horizontal field-of-view at 32 mm vertex distance with increasing decentration are consistent with the theoretical analyses conducted by Kotulak (1992) and by McLean (1992). Our findings

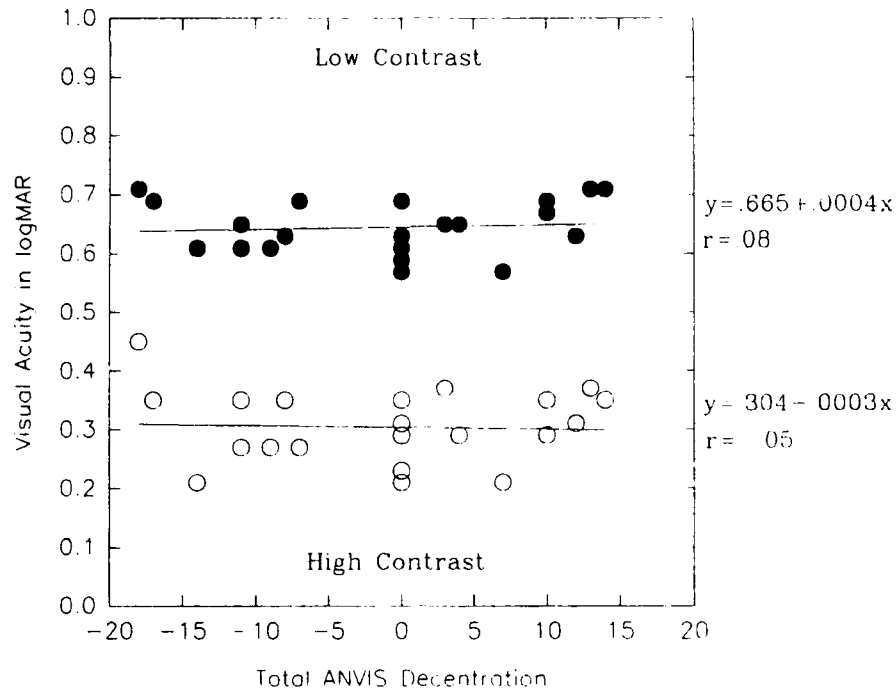


Figure 21. Acuity at 18 mm vertex distance, center of field.

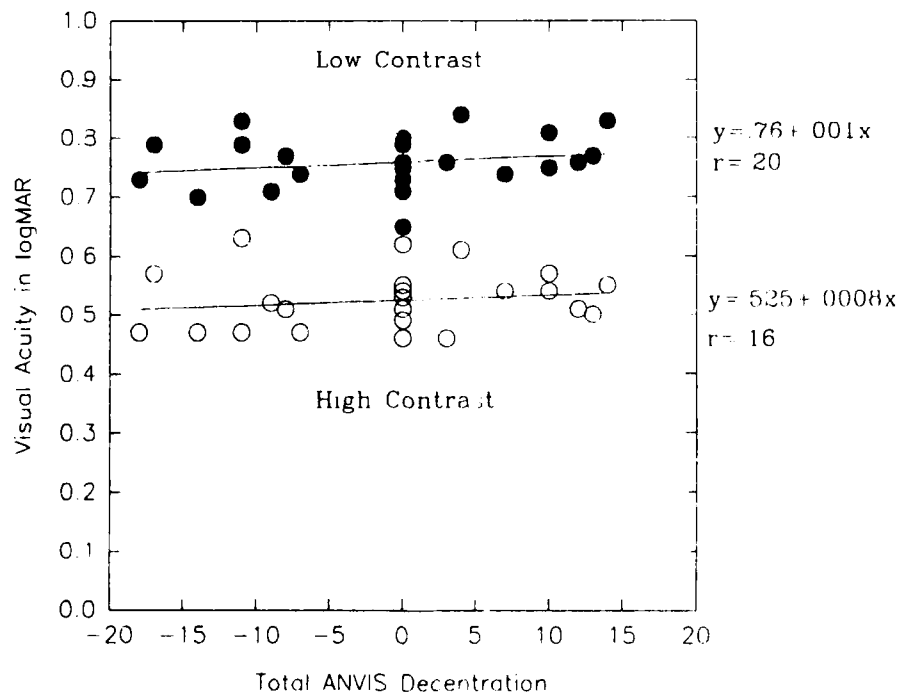


Figure 22. Acuity at 18 mm vertex distance, periphery of field.

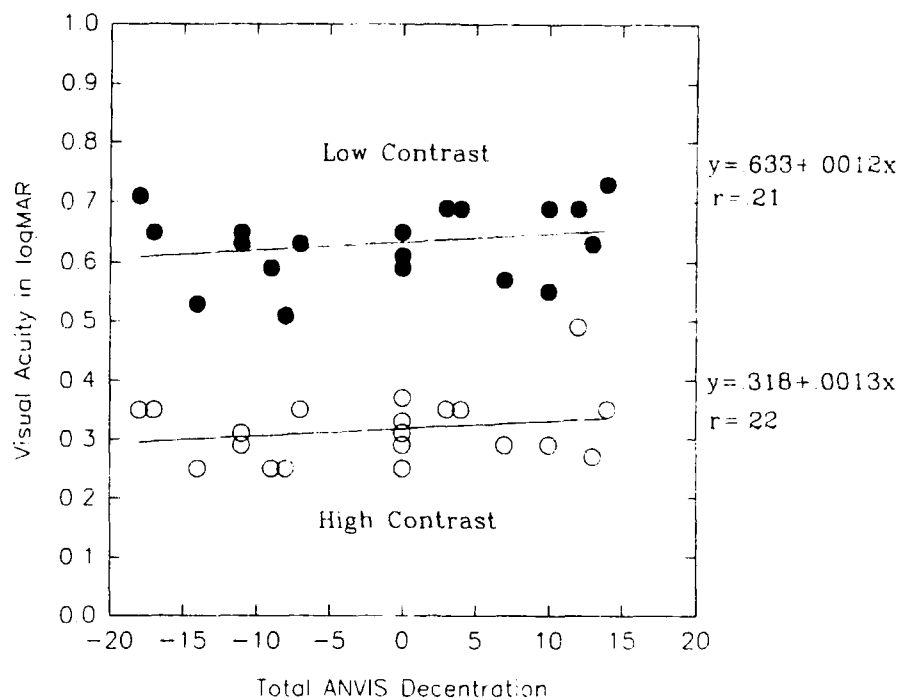


Figure 23. Acuity at 32 mm vertex distance, center of field.

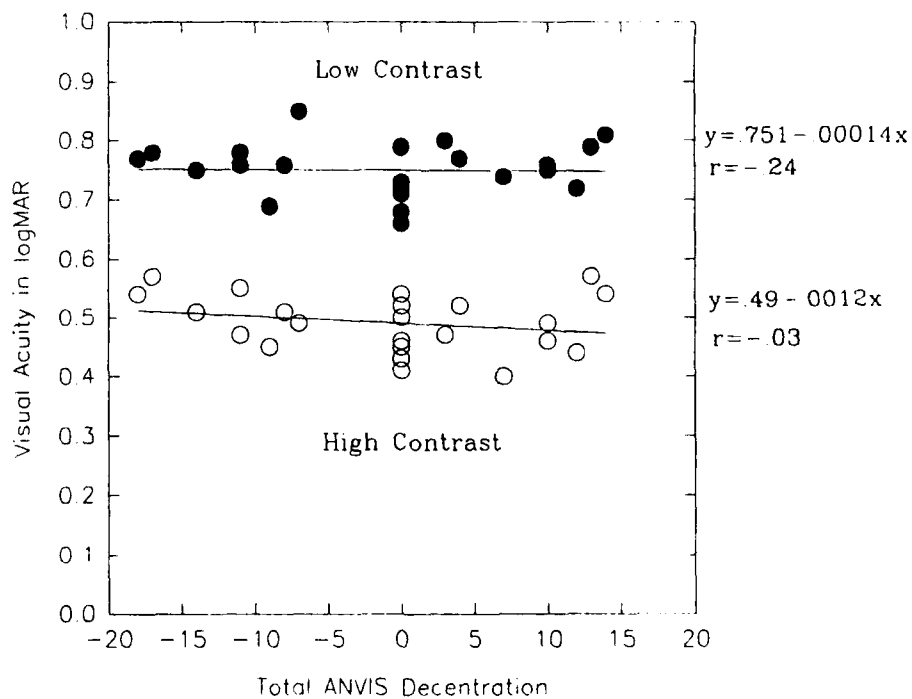


Figure 24. Acuity at 32 mm vertex distance, periphery of field.

in this regard are presented in Figure 25 for 18 mm vertex distance, summarizing Figures 11, 14, and 17, and in Figure 26 for 32 mm vertex distance, summarizing Figures 12, 15, and 18. The agreement with the theoretical analyses in Figures 3 and 4 is particularly striking. It should be noted that decentration does increase the total field-of-view at 32 mm vertex distance only for the horizontal total field-of-view. These analyses predict that the vertical field-of-view, which is also vignetted at 32 mm vertex distance, would remain reduced under decentration.

### Acuity

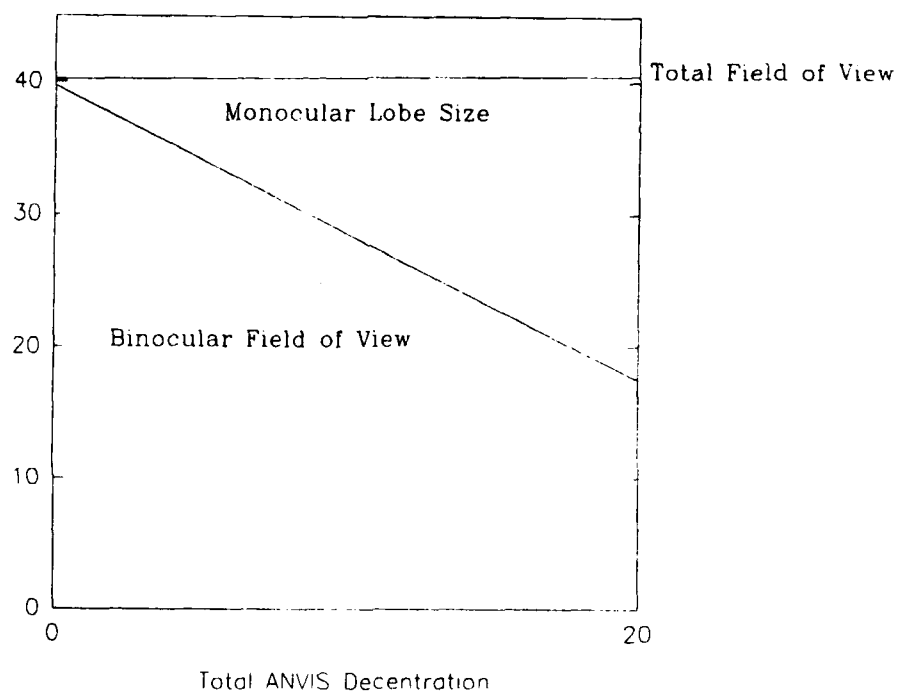
The acuity data obtained from the center and the periphery of the field-of-view were generally consistent with Walsh (unpublished, cited in Karney, 1988) except for the unusually low acuity he obtained under center field high contrast conditions. Indeed, our acuity data closely match Kotulak and Rash's (1992) results for the center of the field-of-view under both high and low contrast conditions. These data are summarized and compared in Table 3. The relative loss of acuity in the periphery of the ANVIS field-of-view is greater than previously reported.

Table 3.

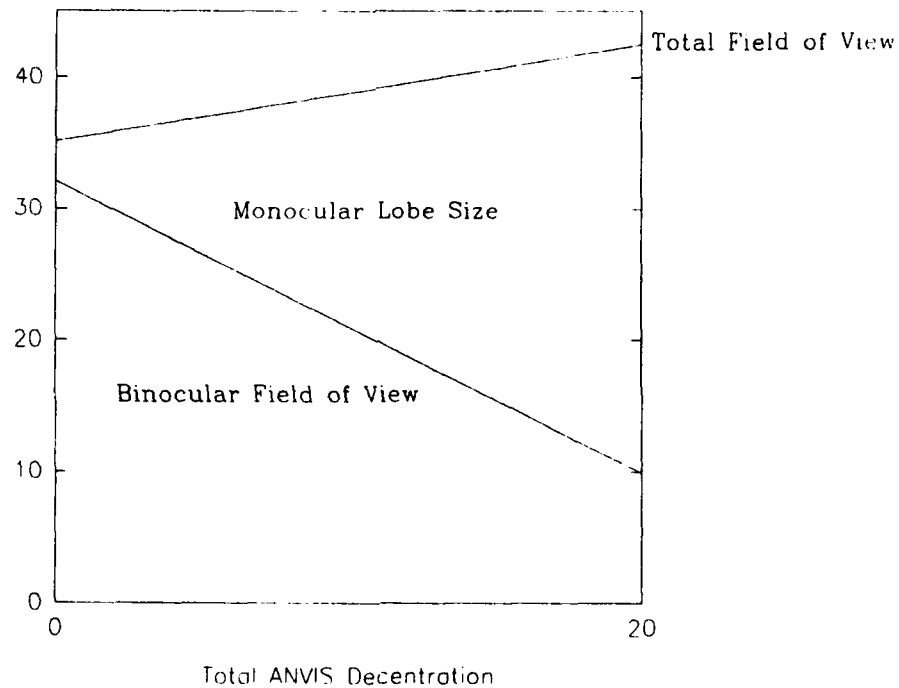
Acuity in logMAR at the center and periphery of the ANVIS field-of-view for approximately equivalent lighting conditions

<u>Source</u>	<u>Center</u>	
	<u>High contrast</u>	<u>Low contrast</u>
Walsh unpublished, cited in Karney, 1988	.51 $\pm$ .08	.66 $\pm$ .04
Kotulak and Rash, 1992	.30 $\pm$ .08	.65 $\pm$ .15
This report	.28 $\pm$ .05	.62 $\pm$ .05
	<u>Periphery</u>	
	<u>High contrast</u>	<u>Low contrast</u>
Walsh, unpublished, cited in Karney, 1988	.58 $\pm$ .06	.73 $\pm$ .07
This report	.52 $\pm$ .05	.74 $\pm$ .05

Data are from Walsh's high luminance condition, Kotulak and Rash's quarter moon condition, and for the present report, the 18 mm vertex distance, optimal IPD condition.



**Figure 25. Observed relative contributions to the field-of-view at 18 mm vertex distance.**



**Figure 26. Observed relative contributions to the field-of-view at 32 mm vertex distance.**

Although the effect of IPD was significant, it represents a small acuity loss, on average corresponding to one letter on the Bailey-Lovie charts under the most extreme decentration conditions. This is clearly not the severe deleterious effects on acuity which Hickok (1992) suggested should accompany even modest IPD decentration. Our results support the suggestion that Hickok's numbers are based on unpublished data from the AN/PVS-5 system, and do not represent results obtained from the later generation ANVIS (McLean, 1992). The present results reveal a statistically significant, but operationally inconsequential contribution of decentration to visual acuity, and do not support Biberman and Alluisi's (1992) contention that missetting the IPD will seriously reduce the performance of ANVIS.

The lack of an IPD by location in the visual field interaction in the present results indicates that the impact of peripheral versus central location in the field-of-view is the same under all conditions of decentration. This suggests that acuity is not reduced in the monocular lobes when compared to the binocular portions of the field-of-view. Examination of the angular sizes of the stimuli employed reveals that at the 10 foot working distance employed in the present experiments, the lines of Bailey-Lovie charts containing the thresholds had an angular size of 3.5 degrees for the high contrast stimuli and 5 degrees for the low contrast stimuli. Under conditions of IPD decentration, these critical lines were contained within the monocular lobe area in almost all cases in which peripheral acuities were being measured, while they were contained in the binocular portion of the field-of-view under optimal IPD conditions. On the other hand, these same lines were in the binocular field-of-view when central acuities were being measured, regardless of the decentration condition. These findings, consistent with Wiley's (1989) results comparing monocular and binocular systems, suggest that the monocular lobes have little impact on acuity with ANVIS.

Subjects in this experiment used the goggles under conditions of decentration for only relatively brief periods. Berkeley (1992) has suggested that decentration may have deleterious effects on visual performance over the course of a long mission. The present data do not address this issue, although it has been suggested that ANVIS and other night vision systems may produce visual fatigue (Brickner, 1989) and visual illusions (Crowley, 1991) under certain conditions. Indeed, several subjects commented on the unusual appearance of the visual field under conditions of moderate to high decentration. Further research into this question would be of value.

### Conclusions

At 18 mm vertex distance, binocular and monocular fields-of-view decreased with decentration of IPD setting, while monocular lobe size increased and the total field-of-view remained unchanged. At 32 mm vertex distance, binocular and monocular fields-of-view were reduced at optimal IPD, and decreased further with increasing decentration, while the monocular lobe size increased. At this vertex distance, the total horizontal field-of-view was restored to 40 degrees by modest decentration. Acuity was relatively insensitive to changes in vertex distance and IPD, but was substantially reduced in the periphery of the field-of-view and under conditions of low stimulus contrast.

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Appendix A.

List of equipment manufacturers

American Optical Corporation  
Buffalo, NY 14215

Gentex Corporation  
Optical Products Group  
P.O. Box 315  
Carbondale, PA 18407

House of Vision Instrument Co.  
137 North Wabash Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60602

Minolta Corporation  
101 Williams Drive  
Ramsey, NJ 07446

University of California  
Multimedia Center  
School of Optometry  
Berkeley, CA 94270

Appendix B.

Data Collection Forms

Subject # \_\_\_\_\_ ANVIS # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

FOV

18mm VERTEX DISTANCE

----- Optimal IPD -----

Left FOV		Right FOV	
Left Limit	Right Limit	Left Limit	Right Limit
_____	_____	_____	_____

----- 72mm IPD -----

Left FOV		Right FOV	
Left Limit	Right Limit	Left Limit	Right Limit
_____	_____	_____	_____

----- 51mm IPD -----

Left FOV		Right FOV	
Left Limit	Right Limit	Left Limit	Right Limit
_____	_____	_____	_____

32mm VERTEX DISTANCE

----- Optimal IPD -----

Left FOV		Right FOV	
Left Limit	Right Limit	Left Limit	Right Limit
_____	_____	_____	_____

----- 72mm IPD -----

Left FOV		Right FOV	
Left Limit	Right Limit	Left Limit	Right Limit
_____	_____	_____	_____

----- 51mm IPD -----

Left FOV		Right FOV	
Left Limit	Right Limit	Left Limit	Right Limit
_____	_____	_____	_____

Subject # \_\_\_\_\_ ANVIS # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acuity

18mm VERTEX DISTANCE

Optimal IPD

Left		Center		Right	
High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

----- 72mm IPD -----

Left		Center		Right	
High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

----- 51mm IPD -----

Left		Center		Right	
High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

32mm VERTEX DISTANCE

----- Optimal IPD -----

Left		Center		Right	
High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

----- 72mm IPD -----

Left		Center		Right	
High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

----- 51mm IPD -----

Left		Center		Right	
High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con	High Con	Low Con
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

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